



PATENT
Docket No. 3295.1

4124
416-02

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)

Glenn McGall)

Serial No. 09/810,434)

Filed: March 15, 2001)

For: Phosphite Ester Oxidation in)
Nucleic Acid Array Preparation)

Group Art Unit: 1635

Examiner: Epps, Janet L.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 17, 2001, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the subject application in view of the following amendments and remarks. Applicants hereby petition to extend the period of response for 1 month, from March 17, 2002 to April 17, 2002. A copy of Amendments with markings to show changes made is enclosed.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 2, 3 and 5 as follows:

1. A method of oxidizing a phosphite ester linkage in a nucleic acid array to a phosphate linkage, comprising contacting said phosphite ester linkage with a solution of from about 0.005 M to about 0.05 M iodine in a mixture of water and organic solvent to form said phosphate linkage.
2. A method of synthesizing a nucleic acid array on a support, wherein each nucleic acid occupies a separate known region of the support, said synthesizing comprising:
- (a) activating a region of the support;
 - (b) attaching a nucleotide to a first region, said nucleotide having a masked reactive site linked to a protecting group;